



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

For Immediate Release

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## Arizona Department of Public Safety stops cloned UPS delivery truck and seizes 2,118 pounds of marijuana *STREET VALUE OF MARIJUANA WORTH NEARLY 1.2 MILLION*

On November 14, 2008, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) Detectives assigned to the Pima County Counter Narcotics Alliance (CNA) conducted an investigation which resulted in the seizure of about 2,118 pounds of marijuana from a cloned United Parcel Service (UPS) truck.

A DPS officer and his narcotics detection canine attempted to stop the cloned UPS truck. When the truck came to a stop, a suspect fled from the vehicle. A search of the truck revealed bundles of marijuana which were still attached to the makeshift burlap back straps which human drug carriers, or "mules", use to facilitate carrying the loads through the desert.

The suspects painted the truck a shade of brown similar to UPS brown and affixed reflective yellow decals in the same general areas as an authorized UPS vehicle. The cloned vehicle also displayed a homemade Arizona license plate and the authentic plate number assigned to UPS in Phoenix. UPS is cooperating with DPS and a search of UPS's vehicle inventory revealed the vehicle number on the cloned UPS truck was an actual number assigned to an authentic UPS truck servicing the Tucson area. The investigation is still ongoing.

\*Photos included are available by request\*

"The excellent work of our detectives and officers assigned to our Highway Patrol Division is evident when we intercept these drug loads coming through the state. We hope this seizure will help keep Arizona communities a bit safer," said Roger Vanderpool, director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

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